IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the title of the invention on the Abstract page, line 2 and page 1, line 1 as follows:

PROCESS FOR MAKING LIGHT WEIGHT RUBBER COMPOSITION CONTAINING CLAY

Please delete the abstract now pending in the subject patent application and substitute in its place the following new abstract:

This invention relates to a process for making a vulcanized rubber article comprising the steps of (1) kneading at a temperature within the range of about 70°C to about 190°C in a bulk thermomechanical mixer (a) an amino group containing rubbery polymer, wherein said amino group containing rubbery polymer contains from about 0.1 weight percent to about 20 weight percent monomer units containing an amino group, (b) from 0.1 to about 25 phr of an organophilic 2:1 layered silicate clay selected from the group consisting of montmorillonite clays, bentonite clays, hectorite clays, saponite clays, nontronite clays, beidellite clays, fluorohectorite clays, stevensite clays, volkonskoite clays, sauconite clays, and laponite clays, and (c) at least one conventional rubber compounding ingredient selected from the group consisting of curing agents, cure accelerators, cure activators, processing aids, reinforcing fillers, oils, cure retarders, resins, and antidegradants, to produce a mixed compound; (2) discharging the said mixed compound from the bulk thermomechanical mixer; (3) forming the mixed compound into an article; and (4) vulcanizing the article.

Please replace the paragraph now appearing page 21, line 19 to line 29, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The rubber compounds of this invention will also normally include from 0.1 phr to 2.5 phr of at least one accelerator with 0.2 phr to 1.5 phr being preferred. The rubber compounds of this invention can also optionally contain from about 1 phr to about 70 phr of silica. Antidegradants, such as antioxidants and antiozonants, will generally be included in the rubber blend in amounts ranging from 0.25 phr to 10 phr with amounts in the range of 1 phr to 5 phr being preferred. Processing oils will generally be included in the blend in amounts ranging from 2 phr to 100 phr with amounts ranging from 5 phr to 50 phr being preferred. The rubber compounds of this invention will also normally contain from 0.5 phr to

10 phr of zinc oxide with 1 phr to 5 phr being preferred. These blends can optionally contain from 0 phr to 10 phr of tackifier resins, 0 phr to 10 phr of reinforcing resins, 1 phr to 10 phr of fatty acids, 0 phr to 2.5 phr of peptizers and 0 phr to 1 phr of scorch inhibiting agents.